

# BEIJING REVIEW

北京周報

A CHINESE WEEKLY  
OF  
NEWS AND VIEWS

Soviet Military  
Strategy for  
World  
Domination

Discussion on  
Guidelines for  
Agriculture



# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

## What's Moscow After?

Despite worldwide condemnation and protest, more Soviet troops are swarming into Afghanistan to quell the rising Afghan resistance. Why is Moscow being so unscrupulous? Our news analyst probes into Soviet intentions (Page 9) while *Renmin Ribao's* Special Commentator provides the background to Moscow's moves in an in-depth analysis of its overall military strategy. (Page 15)

## Ways to Modernize Chinese Farming

A lively debate on the guidelines for China's agriculture is going on. All agree that

an over-concentration on grain production won't do, but differ over whether to stress stockbreeding or all-round development? And what role will industry, commerce, technology and education play? (Page 20)

## Discussions on Party History

How should Party history be written and Party stalwarts be appraised? And why should it be more than a mere history of two-line struggle? (Page 3)

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When new laws go into effect (Page 3), when electric power comes to the big Wuhan rolling

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**POLITICAL****New Laws in Effect**

Six new laws, adopted last July by the National People's Congress, came into effect January 1, 1980. They are:

- Organic Law of the People's Courts;
- Organic Law of the People's Procuratorates;
- Criminal Law;
- Law of Criminal Procedure;
- Organic Law of the Local People's Congresses and the Local People's Governments, and
- Electoral Law for the National People's Congress and the Local People's Congresses.

Responsible personnel of the Public Security Ministry, the Supreme People's Procuratorate and the Supreme People's Court recently gave a series of radio broadcasts on the enforcement of the Criminal Law and the Law of Criminal Procedure.

Jiang Hua, President of the Supreme People's Court, stressed that the people's courts are independent and subject only to the law. He said the administering of justice will be carried out according to law and not the wishes of any individual. All men are equal before the law. Family origin, status and position of the offenders will not be considered in the meting out of sentences. The task of Party leadership in judicial work is mainly to give guidance and to supervise the implementation of the policies and principles, and see to it that the people's courts carry out trials in an independent way.

Huang Huoqing, Chief Procurator of the Supreme People's Procuratorate, pointed out that in punishing counter-revolutionaries and other criminal offenders, the procuratorates must see to it that no innocent person is wronged and no guilty person escapes justice. Criminals who violate the laws and decrees, harm the people, encroach upon state property and sabotage the socialist economy will be duly punished.

In his broadcast speech, Minister of Public Security Zhao Cangbi pointed out that the Criminal Law and the Law of Criminal Procedure are strong weapons to protect the people, punish their enemies and all culprits. To use these weapons correctly, the public security organs must strictly abide by the law, punish those who violate the law, carry on the fine tradition of observing discipline and cherishing the people, and strengthen their close ties with the people.

About 1,500 laws and decrees were adopted between October 1, 1949, when New China was founded, and 1965, the year before the Cultural Revolution began. The total repudiation of these laws and decrees by Lin Biao and the gang of four, however, resulted in a state of turmoil and there were no laws by which the people could abide.

Since the downfall of the gang, the Party and state have attached great importance to improving the socialist legal system and strengthening the judicial organs.

The six new laws were worked out on the basis of the laws and decrees previously in force, and after wide discussion among jurists, judicial workers and ordinary citizens. For instance,

the criminal law (draft) was revised 33 times before the Cultural Revolution and was again revised six more times last year before the final version was brought out.

After the new laws were made public last July, a national conference was held by the Ministry of Public Security, the Supreme People's Procuratorate and the Supreme People's Court to discuss the implementation of these laws. Measures have been taken to train judicial workers, consolidate and perfect judicial organizations, and educate the people in the socialist legal system.

**Again On Party History**

The exhibition of the history of the Chinese Communist Party (the period of democratic revolution) in the Museum of the Chinese Revolution in Beijing has attracted visitors from various parts of the country. (See *Beijing Review* No. 44, 1979.) A discussion on Party history has at the same time begun in the nation's newspapers.

*Renmin Ribao* published a signed article, "Accurately Reflect the History of the Chinese Communist Party," in which the writer gave his own views on the following questions.

**The Personal History of a Leader Is Not the History of the Party.** The great contributions Comrade Mao Zedong made to the Party in his life-long struggle for the revolution is indelible. But he was also a man, not a demigod; he couldn't always be right and free from mistakes, let alone being omniscient and omnipotent as Lin Biao and the gang of four would have people believe.

Everyone arrives at an understanding of the objective world step by step. In 1927 when Comrade Mao Zedong organized and led the Autumn Uprising in the Hunan-Jiangxi border area, he first planned to attack Changsha. But when the uprising suffered setbacks, he changed his original plan in time and led the peasant insurrectionists to the countryside where the enemy forces were the weakest and established a revolutionary base area in the Jinggang Mountains. This shows that Comrade Mao Zedong's strategic thinking of encircling the cities with the countryside took time to take form and develop. In the past, however, people were forbidden to breathe a word about the planned attack on Changsha. Anyone who did so would be accused of vilifying the leader.

In the years when Lin Biao and the gang of four were in power, they said that only Comrade Mao Zedong was correct and everything correct was first done by him. Writings on the history of the Party attributed the victory of the revolution only to Comrade Mao Zedong



Comrade Peng Pai (third from left), one of the peasant movement leaders in the 1920s, at a conference of members of the executive committee of the Guangdong Peasant Association.

and played down or completely deleted the contributions made by the other veteran revolutionaries. Here are two examples:

— On the question of building a revolutionary armed force, Comrade Zhou Enlai had attached importance to it in the early stage of the revolution.

One proof was the formation of an armoured unit in 1924.

— The peasant movement led by Comrade Peng Pai (1896 — 1929), a political activist of the Chinese Communist Party, in Haifeng of Guangdong Province was started earlier than that in Shaoshan of Hunan led by Comrade Mao Zedong.

But people could not say these things according to historical facts. Anyone who did so would be condemned for belittling the leader.

Some works on the Party history attributed the victory of the revolution to one man only. This is a distortion of facts. The Chinese Communist Party was founded by a group of people with communist ideals, not by anyone single-handedly. Later, in the various periods of the revolution, many prominent leaders had emerged within the Party.

Therefore, the Party history must reflect not only the leading role played by Comrade Mao Zedong, but also that played by Comrades Zhou Enlai, Zhu De and other veteran pro-

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## Symposium on Historical Party Personages

A symposium was held recently in Guangzhou to discuss the writing of biographies of some prominent figures in the history of the Party. Papers on the revolutionary activities of Comrades Zhou Enlai, Li Dazhao, Peng Dehuai and other veteran revolutionaries were read at the symposium, opinions on the study of Party history were exchanged, and some basic principles on writing biographies were discussed.

All the participants held that the principle of seeking truth from facts must be followed, that these personages should be appraised in the light of actual historical conditions, and that a scientific approach should be adopted to reflect the development of their thinking and their characteristics. To have a clear understanding of their life and activities, it is necessary to carry out thorough investigations, collect first-hand material, and get the help of other veteran revolutionaries still living and the relatives of the martyrs.

A society for the study of historical Party personages was founded at the symposium, which elected its president and vice-presidents.

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letarian revolutionaries. In addition, it must give factual representation to the roles played by the Party organizations, the proletariat as a class and the masses of the people.

**Correctly Appraise Historical Figures.** In appraising historical figures, concrete historical conditions must be taken into consideration. One of the reasons for the confusion in the writing of Party history is that, for many years, the principle of seeking truth from facts was not adhered to in appraising prominent personages.

During the Cultural Revolution, for instance, the accusations against Comrade Liu Shaoqi, who was one of those who personally led the miners' strike in Anyuan, were groundless. There were three charges against him: (1) He went to Anyuan on his own with ulterior motives. But the fact was that he was sent there by the Party organization in Hunan to help lead the workers in their strike. (2) He advocated "civilized strike." Actually the term "civilized strike" meant that, after calling the strike, the workers must observe discipline. (3) He was not firm enough in negotiating with the capitalists. The truth was that, before the strike, the workers raised 17 demands and elected him to be their representative in the negotiations. Thirteen of the 17 demands were accepted, thereby achieving the main goal of the strike.

The same principle should be applied to Lin Biao. It would be wrong to neglect his role in the battle of Pingxingguan (Pingxing Pass) and the Jinzhou campaign and write him off altogether just because he later became a traitor to the Party and the country.

**Party History Cannot Be Replaced by History of Two-Line Struggle.** The history of the Chinese Communist Party is the history of the struggle of the proletariat and other revolutionary people led by the Party against imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat-capitalism and for socialist revolution and socialist construction. But during the Cultural Revolution, this was neglected and the history of the Party was twisted into a history of endless struggle between two lines within the Party.

The two-line struggle within the Party emerged in the struggle against class enemies. Only when there is class struggle in the society will there be two-line struggle within the Party. Therefore, works on the Party history should always give first place to the struggle against class enemies, and should not substitute inner-Party two-line struggle for the Party history.

In the history of the Chinese Communist Party, there were only a few cases of two-line struggle. Moreover, two-line struggles should not be treated as struggles against the enemies. When people stick to their

wrong line and carry it to the point where they side with the enemy to oppose revolution, then and only then the nature of the struggle turns into one between ourselves and the enemy.

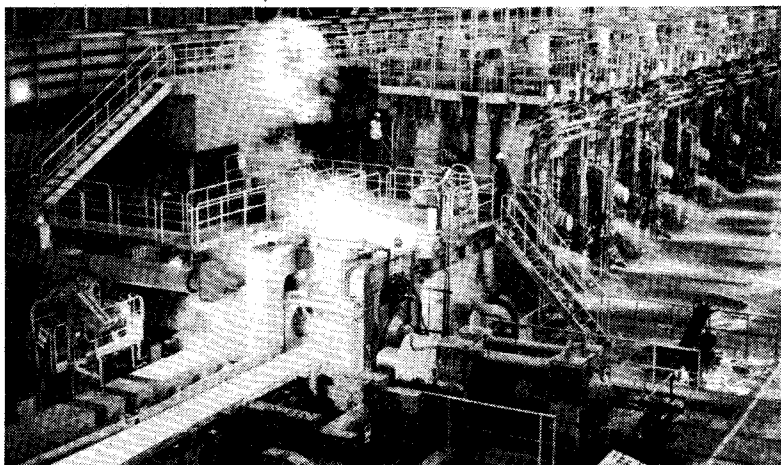
## ECONOMIC

### Large Rolling Mill in Wuhan

A large modern rolling mill of the Wuhan Iron and Steel Company in central China's Hubei Province will go into operation this year.

Completed at the end of 1978, the new rolling mill has during a year's trial-production produced 220,000 tons of continuous cast steel billets and 500,000 tons of hot-rolled plate steel and cold-rolled sheet steel, with tin- and zinc-plated sheets as well as silicon steel which could not be produced previously in China.

The new mill has an annual designed capacity of 3 million tons. It consists of a steel mill, a continuous casting workshop, a hot-rolling sheet steel mill, a



The hot-rolling sheet steel mill of the Wuhan Iron and Steel Company.

cold-rolling sheet steel mill and a silicon steel mill—all except the first were equipped with machinery imported from Japan and West Germany.

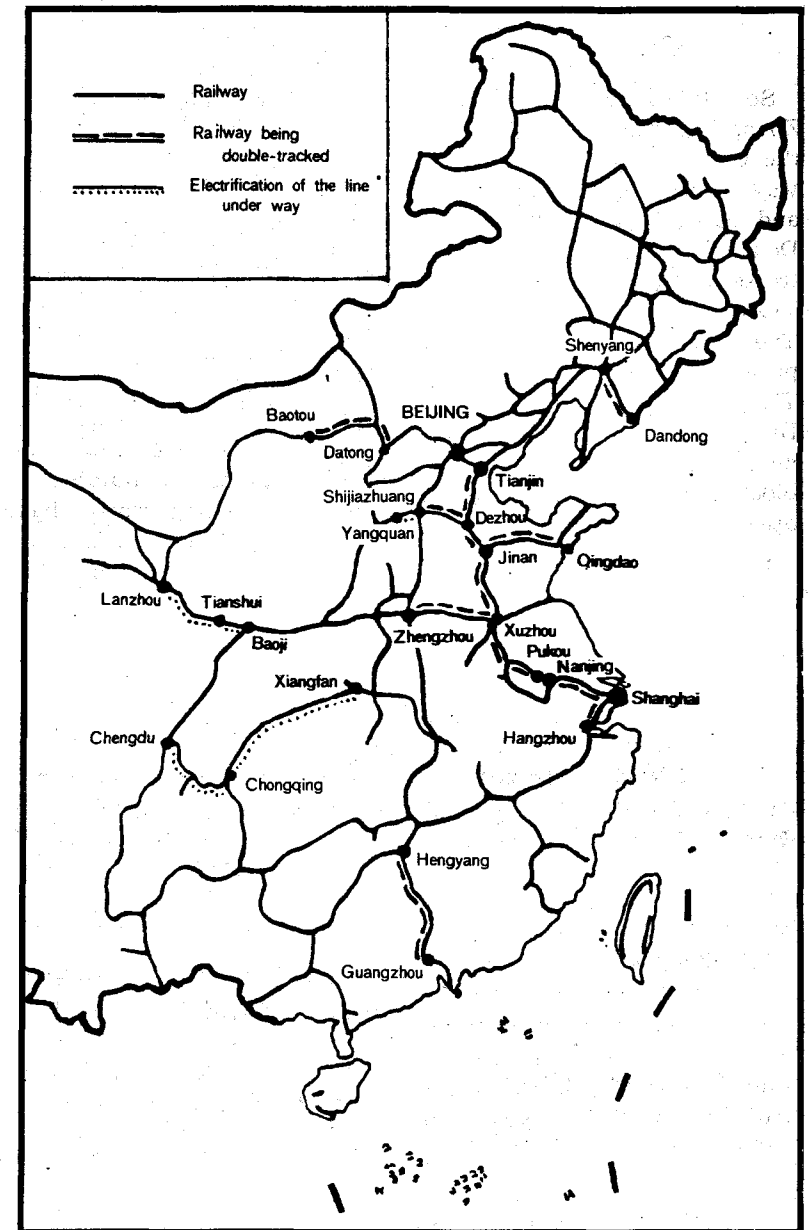
To ensure normal production, measures were taken by the state in 1974 to supply electricity to the mill. The state instructed that hydroelectric stations and thermal power stations in Hubei Province should increase their electricity output. But with the development of local industrial and agricultural production, electricity consumption has also increased. Owing to inadequate supply of electricity, the mill had to suspend its trial-production. It was only in the latter half of 1979, when the electric mains in Hubei Province were linked to those in neighbouring Henan Province, that the problem of providing electricity to the rolling mill was initially solved.

The state has decided to build a power station near a coal base in Henan Province and extend a 500,000-volt extra-high tension transmission line to Hubei Province so as to solve completely the problem of an inadequate supply of electricity in that province. Construction of this project is now in full swing.

## Renovation of Railways

Railway departments fulfilled the state plan last year. Total volume of freight was 1,080 million tons, an increase of 20 million tons over 1978, and the total number of passengers was 820 million, a 5 per cent increase over the previous year.

These achievements notwithstanding, rail transport remains a weak link in China's national economy. For quite a long time, the railway departments paid little attention to



renovating the existing lines while carrying on capital construction. Transport capacity was thus unable to meet the needs of economic development. A change was made last year, and manpower and materials were concentrated on renovating the old lines. Investment last year for this purpose was nearly three times that for building new lines.

Double-tracking of six trunk lines was started last year. They are from Shijiazhuang to

Dezhou, from Tianjin to Pukou, from Shanghai to Nanjing, from Qingdao to Jinan, from Shenyang to Dandong and from Shanghai to Hangzhou. Three sections on three other trunk lines began to be double-tracked in 1979. They are the Zhengzhou-Xuzhou section of the Lianyungang-Lanzhou Railway, the Datong-Baotou section of the Beijing-Baotou Railway, and the Hengyang-Guangzhou section of the Beijing-Guangzhou Railway.

So far the 72-kilometre Zhengzhou-Kaifeng section of the Lianyungang-Lanzhou Railway has been double-tracked and is now open to traffic. Double-tracking of a 70-kilometre section of the Shijiazhuang-Dezhou Railway was completed. The building of ancillary projects for double-tracking the Tianjin-Pukou and Shanghai-Nanjing Railways has made headway, and an automatic block system has been put to use.

Electrification of the 120-kilometre Shijiazhuang-Yanguan section of the Shijiazhuang-Taiyuan Railway has in the main been completed. Electrification of the Baoji-Tianshui and Tianshui-Lanzhou sections and of the Xiangfan-Chongqing and Chengdu-Chongqing Railways is also going on.

### Expansion of Animal Husbandry

An enormous change in transforming the backwardness of animal husbandry in China was brought about last year and satisfactory results were achieved.

**Pigs.** The total number of pigs last year was 8 million head more than in 1978. Purchases by the state reached 129 million, 20.7 million more than in 1978. This increase has resulted in a plentiful supply of pork in most cities.

**Sheep and Goats.** 1979 saw an increase of 7 million in the number of sheep and goats. The state purchased 10.7 million, or 11 per cent more than that in 1978.

**Cattle and Horses.** The number of cattle and horses began to increase in 1979 after years of

steady fall. State purchases of beef cattle last year amounted to 1.5 million head, a 10 per cent increase over 1978.

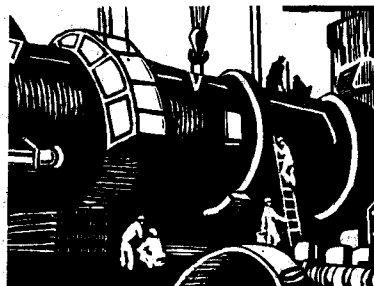
More attention has been paid to livestock breeding. Special studies have been carried out by departments in charge of agricultural production on the expansion of grassland in the pastoral areas and the development of stock-breeding in grain-growing areas. A number of livestock breeding centres have been set up. The Party's policy concerning livestock breeding has been implemented and purchasing prices of animal products have been raised. Mistakes of forbidding the peasants

### More Eggs

Total state purchase of eggs in 1979 topped 825,000 tons, or 48.1 per cent more than in 1978.

This is a record high in China. The average annual purchase of eggs in the past 30 years was 500,000 tons. The worst years were when the gang of four was in power and the lowest figure was 380,000 tons.

and herdsmen to raise their own pigs and horses and cattle have been corrected. All this has greatly increased the enthusiasm of the peasants and herdsmen.



## SOCIAL

### "Half of the Sky"

In China, women are described as "half of the sky." These are not words of flattery, because women workers actually account for about one-third of the country's total labour force. This fact speaks well for the position and important role of Chinese women.

Recently, the All-China Federation of Trade Unions held a special meeting in Beijing on work among women. It called on the trade union organizations at various levels to pay attention to the difficulties of women workers, speak for them and help solve their particular problems so that they can devote their efforts to the country's modernization.

An editorial in *Gongren Ribao* (Workers' Daily) pointed out that women workers are an important component of China's working class. The country now has more than 30 million women workers, and the number is increasing. Among them are numerous model workers, "March 8th" red-banner holders, in addition to many advanced women collectives — all pace-setters in the modernization programme. Therefore, the trade union organizations must:

— Pay attention to the health and labour protection of women workers;

— Help run the kindergartens, nurseries and canteens well and socialize household chores step by step so as to lighten the women workers' burden;

—Help the women workers in regard to love, marriage and family planning; and

—Oppose any instance of discriminating against women or harming their interests.

## **Titles for Engineers and Technicians**

A large contingent of scientists and technicians is indispensable to the realization of the four modernizations in a big country like China. There are only about 1.5 million engineers and technicians at present. The number is too small and their vocational level is not always very high. It is therefore necessary to work out measures to speed up the training of specialists in various fields, particularly the selection and training of young people. It is for this purpose that the State Council recently promulgated the provisional regulations concerning titles for engineers and technicians.

The titles fall under five categories: (1) senior engineer (equivalent to professor and associate professor), (2) engineer (equivalent to lecturer), (3) assistant engineer (equivalent to assistant), (4) technician, and (5) master technician. There are specific requirements and methods of appraisal for each category. The main criterion is based on achievements and technical level, with due consideration to schooling and seniority. Workers and technicians who have special skills and the ability to solve key technical problems and who have distinguished themselves in work can be promoted to be master technicians. Tests will be carried out once every year or two to three years. Those with outstanding achievements may take tests at

any time and may be double promoted.

During the Cultural Revolution, the Party's policy towards intellectuals was thrown overboard and the work of appraisal and promotion was disrupted. This resulted in an abnormal situation in which no distinction was made between those who did more or better work and those who did less or shoddy work. This had an adverse effect on the promotion of production and scientific research.

## **FOREIGN RELATIONS**

### **C.I.S.M. General Assembly In Beijing**

The 34th General Assembly of the International Military Sports Council (C.I.S.M.) was held in Beijing not long ago. Attended by representatives of 56 countries, it was the largest conference since the council was founded 30 years ago.

In his opening address, President of the C.I.S.M. Vice-Admiral A. Massarini of Italy said that the 34th General Assembly would be remembered as a milestone in the history of the C.I.S.M., not only because it was held in the capital of a most populous country, but also because it took place at a time when the ideal of promoting military sports among the member states and mutual understanding and friendship were imperilled under the influence of political and social events. He said that all C.I.S.M. member nations should close their ranks in order to ensure the stability and the continued development of this sports organization.

Founded in 1948, the C.I.S.M.

### **Sino-Soviet Talks Inappropriate Now**

A spokesman of the Information Department of the Foreign Ministry of China told a Xinhua correspondent on January 20 that as a result of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, it is inappropriate at present to hold the second round of Sino-Soviet negotiations.

The spokesman said, "The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan menaces world peace and the security of China as well. It has also created new obstacles for the normalization of relations between China and the Soviet Union. It is apparently inappropriate to hold the Sino-Soviet negotiations under the present circumstances."

has now become a worldwide sports organization with broad representation, second in scope only to the Olympic Games.

The successful convocation of the 34th General Assembly will make positive contributions to the development of sports in the armed forces of the member nations and to the enhancement of mutual understanding and friendship among the people and armed forces of various countries.

At a banquet in honour of the delegates, Vice-Premier and Minister of National Defence Xu Xiangqian congratulated them on their success.

The six-day conference elected a new president and a vice-president and three new executive committee members. It approved a C.I.S.M. sports schedule for the years 1980-84.



## Afghanistan

## What's Moscow After?

**A** SHADOW has been cast over the Middle East and West Asia following the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. The world watches the disturbing developments with growing concern.

• After occupying Kabul, Soviet troops moved overland and by air to all parts of Afghanistan, paying particular attention to strengthening Moscow's hold of strategic points near the Iranian and Pakistani borders. Afghanistan today is virtually under Soviet military occupation.

• The Soviet Union has scornfully ignored the United Nations General Assembly resolution adopted by more than one hundred countries calling for Soviet troops to pull out of Afghanistan. It even turned round to accuse the United Nations of "gross interference" in Afghan affairs! "We were invited," said Brezhnev, in defence of Soviet aggression. Hasn't this pretext been heard before, in connection with Kampuchea? The Soviet Union now has made it quite clear by word and by deed that it has no compunction about directly using its armed forces to further its hegemonist ambitions.

• At the same time as it poured troops into the areas in Afghanistan bordering Pakistan and Iran, the Soviet Union has been building up its forces about the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean. The recent huge influx of arms include Mig-25 fighters, submarines, T-72 tanks and missiles. Soviet naval and air bases in this region are now on a war footing. The Soviet news agency Novosti's commentator, Gennadi Gerasimov, replying to a West German TV reporter's question if the Afghanistan invasion might not be repeated, said, "It depends on the situation at the time." And what is more, Soviet representatives have lately on several occasions revealed their country's intense interest in Pakistan and Iran. Soviet interest to Soviet invasion is only one short step apart, as the recent occupation of Afghanistan proved. It can be seen that the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan is not an isolated move.

## Why the Soviet Union Acted.

In the past ten years Moscow had been contented to use its client states and mercenaries to further its interests in Asia, Africa and the Caribbean. Today, the Soviet Union has come out to do its own nefarious work and has sent its own troops to take over a third-world country. This cannot but gravely affect the overall situation in Asia

and the rest of the world. But why did Moscow decide on making this move?

To understand this, one must look at this move as a part of Moscow's grand strategy for world domination.

Afghanistan figures high in Moscow's overall strategy because the country adjoins Iran and Pakistan and is only some 400 kilometres from the Indian Ocean. From Afghanistan, Soviet military aircraft are within striking distance of the strategic Hormuz Strait at the entrance of the Persian Gulf. Afghanistan's nationality and territorial disputes with Iran and Pakistan could also be conveniently exploited whenever the Soviet Union chooses, to provoke a crisis leading to enlarging Moscow's sphere of influence. Afghanistan links West and South Asia and its strategic importance today is considerably enhanced by the fact that the region about the Persian Gulf is the world's chief oil-producing centre. As a result of Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, Soviet strategy for world domination has taken a giant step forward.

The Soviet Union had, of course, considered the reaction from the world community to its military occupation of Afghanistan and the resultant grave political and moral consequences. But, over the last dozen years, it has seen the United States merely making feeble remonstrations in the face of the mounting Soviet expansionist offensive and is even now embroiled in a quarrel with Iran. Moscow was thus led to believe that an invasion of Afghanistan would not lead to a direct confrontation with the United States. Moreover, it



The bridge.

Cartoon by Liu Yong

hoped also to divide the United States and its European NATO allies and Japan over the Soviet invasion. It is also undeniable that the Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea, which was not punished the way it deserved, helped embolden the Soviet Union. All this was taken into account, and Moscow's conclusion was that the gains from moving into Afghanistan far outweighed the disadvantages.

**Benefits From Afghan Invasion.** What is the situation after this Soviet takeover of Afghanistan? What strategic gains can Moscow reap?

East of the crucial, pivotal Strait of Malacca joining the

Pacific and Indian Oceans, the Soviet Union has used aid to the Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea to extend its air and naval presence from Hainan (Vladivostok) in the north down to the South China Sea and the Gulf of Siam. West of the Strait of Malacca, the Soviet Union has established air and naval bases along the Red Sea and the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait at its southern end. Its occupation of Afghanistan now allows it to directly influence developments in Iran and Pakistan. Once the Soviets control a warm-water port in the Indian Ocean or the Hormuz Strait, then Saudi Arabia, the West's

major oil supplier, is trapped in a pincers. If Moscow's offensive in Southeast Asia and its encirclement of Saudi Arabia succeed, the Soviet Union would have the Strait of Malacca and the Indian subcontinent in its pocket and the whole Indian Ocean from Africa to Australia would become a playground for the Soviet navy.

If ever this happens, then the vital sea-lanes bringing oil to Western Europe, Japan and the United States would be in Soviet hands, and the Soviets would be in the position to manipulate Western Europe and Japan and isolate and weaken the United States.

So, strategically, the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan is an important Soviet move to outflank Western Europe.

**Danger of War Rising.** The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan has drastically altered the world situation. The possibility of another world war breaking out has increased. The situation in the Middle East and the Persian Gulf region will grow more chaotic and tense and will affect the Indian subcontinent, Europe and Japan. Many Asian, Latin American and African countries are already asking who the next victim of Soviet aggression will be. This situation is too much like that prior to the outbreak of World War II, when Hitler swallowed up Austria and went on to take over the Sudetenland of Czechoslovakia. Hitler had gone for broke when he got the signal that aggression would be countenanced. The world today cannot afford to condone aggression. Aggression unpunished does not lead to the maintenance of peace, but to war.

— "Beijing Review" news analyst Yu Pang

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### Brezhnev's Mountain of Lies

Brezhnev used an interview with the Soviet paper *Pravda* on January 12 to defend the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. He declared that there has been no Soviet interference or invasion in the past or at present. The definition of lying in any dictionary, Russian included, is "to make an untrue statement with intent to deceive." To declare that something which exists does not exist is lying.

Let facts speak for themselves.

On August 20, 1968, the Soviet Union dispatched its troops to occupy Czechoslovakia;

On March 2, 1969, Soviet frontier guards intruded into the area of Zhenbao Island in China's Heilongjiang Province and caused an extremely grave and sanguinary incident;

In 1975, Moscow-hired Cuban mercenaries attacked Angola; in 1976, Moscow engineered an attempt to topple the Sudanese Government; in 1977, Moscow sent Cuban-trained Katanga mercenaries to invade Zaire; in 1978, Moscow provoked an armed conflict in the Horn of Africa and sent Cuban mercenary troops into Ethiopia. Then Soviet officers and Cuban troops, and Soviet warships off the Red Sea coast, took a direct hand in suppressing the Eritrean guerrillas.

From 1975 to 1978, the Soviet Union backed the Vietnamese to occupy six of China's Nansha Islands and Kampuchea's Way Island. During this period, the Soviet Union engineered six unsuccessful plots to subvert Democratic Kampuchea. Later, Moscow incited Viet Nam to send over a hundred thousand Vietnamese troops to occupy Phnom Penh and large areas of Kampuchean territory.

If all this isn't "interference" and "invasion," then what is?

## Yugoslavia Capable of Safeguarding Its Independence

**P**RESIDENT Tito's illness has become an issue of paramount concern in Yugoslavia and the entire international community. A series of meetings have been held by top government and League Leaders in Yugoslavia to discuss the domestic and current world situation. The meetings particularly demanded that it is necessary to strengthen the system of total national defence, pointing out that it is not a "theoretical but a practical problem" and concrete measures should be taken.

Mirko Kalezic, a spokesman of the Yugoslav Foreign Ministry, pointed out at a press conference on January 18 that Yugoslavia is capable of safeguarding its independence. "Yugoslavia has never accepted any outside protection and has no need of it. It resolutely rejects any bloc rivalry in relation to its internal or international policies."

When asked about the reference to the Macedonian problem in the Bulgarian weekly journal *Economic Life* commenting on the memoirs of Tzola Dragoicheva, Mirko Kalezic said: "This is an open territorial claim on Yugoslavia, seriously endangering the faith and stability in the Balkans." He further noted: "This is a gross violation of the essential principles of the United Nations Charter concerning the right of a people to self-determination. It is in effect

equivalent to preaching the theory of limited sovereignty."

## Troop Movements in Eastern Europe

**F**OREIGN reports indicate that the Soviet Union has been moving troops in Eastern Europe. The *New York Post* quoted a U.S. State Department source on January 18 as saying that in the past five days Russian troops have been dispatched from the Soviet Union and East Germany to staging areas in Hungary. That is, they are being "deployed at railheads 60 miles from the Yugoslav border." The paper added that "the Soviet army in East Germany (totalling more than 400,000 men) has been put on top alert," as have been three divisions of the Soviet army stationed in Poland.

Washington has reaffirmed its

support for Yugoslav security and territorial integrity. State Department spokesman Hodding Carter said that when President Tito visited the United States in 1978, both sides issued a joint communique in which the United States said that it would support Yugoslavia's security and territorial integrity. Carter stressed that the American position had not changed and that the United States was closely watching Soviet troop movements.

Lord Carrington, British Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, expressed the opinion that the West must make it clear to the Soviets that another Afghanistan will not be tolerated. "We must make it plain that a repetition of Afghanistan is not acceptable and this applies particularly to Yugoslavia," he stressed.

## Iran Refuses Soviet Military Aid

**T**HE Soviet chargé d'affaires in Mexico recently released a trial balloon. He stated that the Soviet Union would give assistance to Iran, including military aid, to counter U.S. pressure if the Iranian Government requested it. He obviously did so on orders from Moscow.

The proposal was condemned at once by Iran. Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini issued a statement categorically refusing Soviet military aid to Iran. He said that neither he nor the Iranian Government would permit the Soviet Government or any other government to make such baseless statements which "insult our dignity and the noble Iranian nation." He further warned that Iran would probably reconsider the relations between the two

countries. Khomeini authorized the Iranian Revolutionary Council and the Foreign Ministry to inform the Soviet ambassador in Teheran of his request that the Soviet chargé d'affaires in Mexico refrain from making such disgraceful statements in the future.

The Soviet Union has been gloating over the crisis between Iran and the United States and has adopted a double-dealer's policy: support Iran in public but behind the scenes seize the opportunity to make trouble. Following the invasion of Afghanistan, the vigilance of the Iranian people has heightened.

Iranian Foreign Minister Sadegh Ghotbzadeh has said that Soviet military interven-

tion in Afghanistan is very dangerous to Iran. "We fully support the Afghan people's struggle against Soviet military occupation and condemn the action of the Soviet Union which threatens our Baluchistan. So we cannot keep silent about it."

## Pyongyang Proposes Direct South-North Negotiation

**D**IRECT talks between south and north should be held at the earliest possible date to discuss reunification of Korea which has entered the new decade still divided. This was suggested by Kim Il, Vice-President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea as well as Chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, and Li Jong Ok, Premier of the Administration Council, in their recent separate letters to the south Korean authorities. The new proposal is another expression of the earnest desire of the Korean people for the reunification of their fatherland.

In addition to reiterating the proposal to hold an enlarged south-north political consultative conference, they outlined new suggestions for resolving the present division of the country and expressed their readiness for direct talks with Kim Jong Pil, President of the south Korean ruling Democratic Republic Party; Kim Yong Sam, President of the opposition south Korean "Shinmin" Party; and south Korean "Prime Minister" Shin Hyon Hwack. As for the meeting site, it could be in Panmunjom, Pyongyang or Seoul, or even in a third country.

The Korean Workers' Party and President Kim Il Sung have

consistently called for south-north contacts and dialogue so as to pave the way for a peaceful reunification. Following the sudden death of Pak Jung Hi last October, the northern side initiated a proposal "to find a way out for the nation through north-south co-operation and unity for the reunification of the country," and at the same time suggested that the two

### PARIS-BONN

## Military Co-operation on the Agenda

**I**N recent years, co-operation between France and West Germany has gradually developed, first politically, then economically, and now militarily.

French press reports said that French and West German paratroopers recently held joint manoeuvres in Bonn and West German warships are now equipped with French *Alouette* MM-38 missiles. French generals Sanguinetti and Buis, two influential military experts, advocated French-West German joint production of nuclear weapons. People today are turning their attention to military co-operation between the two nations.

General de Gaulle more than a decade ago had a blueprint for French-West German co-

operation and sides co-operate in economic, cultural, educational, health and other fields. These suggestions can play a positive role in promoting an independent and peaceful reunification in conformity with the desires and fundamental interests of the Korean people of all strata.

Shutting their eyes to the various changes in the present situation, the south Korean authorities have not made any positive concrete responses to the new northern proposal. Instead, they have continued to suppress patriotic personages and young students in south Korea who are asking for democracy and freedom and advocating a peaceful reunification of the fatherland.

operation and worked for the signing of a friendship treaty. However, nothing was accomplished then, because the conditions were not ripe. De Gaulle later lamented: The idea of a treaty faded as quickly as the fresh bloom of a maid, withered as rapidly as a rose.

Why are things moving ahead now?

Sure, the French President and the West German Chancellor have good personal relations, but there are more important factors which are pushing forward military co-operation between the two nations.

**Important Factors.** Over the last decade or so, there has been a big change in the power balance between the opposing military blocs in Europe. The



Johnny-come-lately super-power's all-out endeavours to boost armaments and war preparations in Europe have made both France and West Germany increasingly sceptical about the dependability of the "nuclear umbrella" of the United States which remains irresolute and hesitant in the face of constant Soviet threats. A French diplomat recently said: "Whenever the Germans start worrying about Washington, they start turning towards Paris." And how does France stand? It pulled out of NATO's military organization a long time back and, on defence policy, it has been putting stress on its policy of an "independent defence" based on its own "nuclear deterrent." But the great debate going on in France on the question of defence shows a new realization. More and more people are saying that France cannot just rely on itself; it must co-operate militarily with other nations, if it is to cope with realities in Europe today. When de Gaulle was in Bonn in 1962 to improve bilateral relations, he said to Konrad Adenauer: "Our two nations complement each other in territory, labour and mentality." It is even more demonstrable today. In his August 26 article in the *New York Times Magazine* James O. Goldsborough said: "Separately, they are but two medium powers. Together, they have a gross national product that is more than half the Common Market total and own Western Europe's two largest military forces, one of them nuclear." Co-operation between France and West Germany is sure to command greater and greater respect.

In August 1939 when there was still peace in the world,

many could not have imagined that a world war would break out. But not many days later, all Europe was embroiled in war. People in Western Europe still remember this very clearly. Is there any guarantee that history will not repeat itself? Last August, the French paper *le Figaro* said: "History keeps repeating itself mechanically

like an idiot. But people can do something to obstruct it. At least, they can try. And this is what we are determined to do." Military co-operation between France and West Germany is one of the things which they are "determined to do" to maintain peace in Europe.

— Yang Rusheng

### 1979 in Retrospect

## Middle East: An Eventful Year

UNDER the shadow of a new, palpable energy crisis, the two superpowers have been locked in fierce contentions in the strategically important region of the Middle East, contentions which are intertwined with complex regional contradictions.

One of the superpowers has been trying to maintain the status quo through tactics of "peace," and the other, to intensify the upheavals and to fish in troubled waters.

**Old Pattern Changed.** The old pattern in the area, marked by confrontation between the Arab camp and Israel, has radically changed since last March when Egypt and Israel concluded a peace treaty through the mediation of the United States. The treaty put an end to a state of war between Egypt and Israel which had lasted 30 years.

Egypt recovered part of the Sinai Peninsula from Israel and the two countries will soon establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level.

But Israel still forcibly occupies Palestine and Syria's Golan Heights, and refuses to

recognize the Palestinian people's national rights.

Consequently, tense relations between Arab countries and Israel persist.

Most Arab countries boycott the peace treaty and call for a comprehensive settlement of the Middle East question.

Egypt has time and again declared that the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty is only an initial step towards peace and that it wants to continue its move to seek a comprehensive Middle East settlement the key of which is the solution of the question of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

Since the end of the 1973 October War in the Middle East, the United States has been working for the improvement of its relations with the Arab countries while continuing to support Israel.

Over the years, Washington has put forth a variety of peace proposals to solve the Middle East question. It has also urged the Arab frontline countries to enter into negotiations with Israel. All these are part of a U.S. effort to maintain its in-

terests in the region, winning these countries over and squeezing out Soviet influence. The signing of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty represented an important step in the "Middle East peace process" pursued by the United States.

To offset American efforts for peace and negotiations, the Soviet Union has been cultivating instability and division.

Making capital of some Arab countries' discontent with the treaty, Moscow has been trying to sow discord in the Arab world in order to fan opposition to Egypt and to prevent other Arab countries from joining the "peace process."

All this is aimed at strengthening Moscow's Middle East position as a challenge to the United States.

**Palestinian Issue More Prominent.** In the past year, the problem of Palestinian rights has received greater attention than ever before. A growing number of people in the world have come to see the Palestinian issue as the core of the Middle East problem, the solution to which implies restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to create a Palestinian state. The heads of state or high-ranking officials of some West European countries have made a series of contacts with the leaders of the Palestine Liberation Organization. The nine states of the European Economic Community have declared their recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people to build an independent state.

Since the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, Washington has sought to make a breakthrough on the Palestinian question with a view to pushing forward the "peace

process." But it is generally held that the U.S. policy is shortsighted: partiality towards Israel, reluctance to support the Arab countries with all its weight, a blind eye to changing factors in the Middle East situation and refusal to recognize the rights of the Palestinian people. Though Washington has lately become a bit more flexible in policy matters, it is still under many constraints and declines to take the big step in keeping with developments.

In the past year, Israel has found itself in a more isolated position. The Begin government still refuses to recognize the Palestinian people's right to build their own state and has repeatedly attacked the camps of Palestinian commandos in southern Lebanon. It has also continued to set up Jewish "settlements" on Palestinian land west of the Jordan River. All this has aroused strong opposition from the Arab people and is condemned by world public opinion. Within the Israeli ruling clique itself, a divergence of views has surfaced. Dayan's resignation from his post of foreign minister demonstrates that the policy pursued by the Begin government has gone into a blind alley.

**New Upheavals in Gulf Area.** The departure of Mohammad Reza Pahlavi from Iran in early 1979 and the return home of Ayatollah Khomeini after a long exile abroad gave birth to a regime based on a "merger of politics and religion" in this Gulf country. Upheavals in Iran have brought about destabilizing factors in other countries of the area.

The long-time unrest has created serious economic difficulties for Iran. Furthermore, demands for self-rule by the national minorities and disputes within the religious leadership have plunged the country into endless turmoil.

The problem of American hostages in the U.S. Embassy in Teheran has created a serious crisis in the Iranian-U.S. relations. Its impact has spread far beyond the relations between the two countries.

In the meantime, the Soviet Union, taking advantage of the crisis, has stepped up its southward drive. From the end of 1978 to October last year, the Soviet Union signed alliance treaties with Ethiopia, Afghanistan and South Yemen, followed by the dispatch of large supplies of weapons and groups of military experts to these countries. A military encirclement of the oil-producing Gulf area is nearing completion and this gravely threatens the security of oil shipping.

\* \* \*

The stalemate of the "Middle East peace process," the problem of American hostages, the grave crises in the Gulf area and the covetous eyes cast on the area by the Soviet Union — all these sharply challenge vital U.S. interests in the Middle East. In the United States voices are growing louder for political and military countermeasures to cope with the "iron encirclement" from the north. A storm of confrontation seems to be brewing over the Middle East horizon.

— Xinhua Correspondent

# Soviet Military Strategy for World Domination

**F**OR the past dozen years, the Soviet Union has pressed ahead with its armament expansion and war preparations and has used its military might for expansion abroad. The recent Afghan invasion has set a precedent for Moscow to send its troops directly into a third world country. It is an indication of further and more adventurous Soviet military expansion in the 80s. This poses a direct menace to world peace and security, which the world cannot but take into serious consideration. So, an examination of Soviet military strategy, its essence and intentions, from the point of view of the overall world situation will help us to better understand the changes which have taken place in the international strategic situation and thus to strengthen the struggle in defence of world peace against hegemonism.

## For Overall Superiority Over the United States

The Soviet Union's chief rival is the United States. For the Soviet Union, the history of building up and expanding its armed forces in the past decade and more is, in a sense, one of an arms race with the United States. In this protracted and fierce contest, what is the goal pursued by Moscow? Parity with the United States or superiority over it?

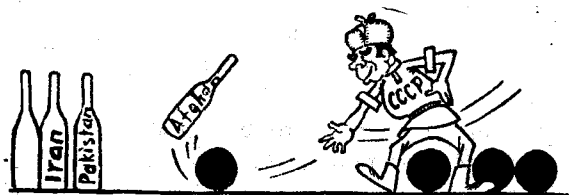
Two salient points are observed in examining the decade or so of the Soviet-American arms race.

1) Massive Outlay. In the 14 years from 1965 to 1978, Soviet military expenditures rose from 32,600 million U.S. dollars to over 120,000

million in real terms, an annual increase of about 8 per cent (5 per cent in the last 5 years). During this same period, U.S. defence spending fell year after year, until 1975 when the trend was reversed. But the increase has never exceeded 3 per cent. The Soviet military expenditures went up from 7 per cent of the gross national product in 1965 to 9 in 1978, while the corresponding U.S. figure fell from 8.4 per cent to 5.3. The Soviet military budget in 1973 began to top the United States'.

2) Rapid Development. Between 1965 and 1972, despite the agreement signed by Moscow and Washington to limit the number of their strategic offensive weapons, the Soviet Union deployed 150 new intercontinental missiles and 50 submarine launched ballistic guided missiles each year so that within 7 years it had more strategic missiles than the United States and achieved its goal of reaching parity by making up in quantity what it lacked in quality. When the Soviet-U.S. nuclear arms race entered its new phase with an emphasis on quality, Moscow concentrated on developing multiple independently targeted ballistic missiles and raising the accuracy of missiles. It often advanced faster than the West predicted. Moreover, the Soviet Union leads the United States in some items, such as the "cold-launch" technology of the intercontinental missiles, the development of interceptor satellites and particle-beam weapons, although it lags behind the United States in military technology as a whole. Even in fields the United States pioneered, such as the cruise missile, the Soviet Union is rapidly catching up. And it far outstrips the United States in the output of conventional weapons of all types, with the discrepancy in quality narrowing rapidly; some weapons are even better than those of the United States.

In a word, as a result of the arms race, the United States has lost its advantages in some spheres to the Soviet Union which, at the same



Next: . . .

Cartoon by Mei Luo

time, is holding on and steadily pushing ahead where it has the edge. American programmes for the development and deployment of some weapons, such as the neutron bomb, have frequently been held back by interferences at home and abroad and through opposition from Moscow. But the Soviet Union is basically not handicapped like this, so it has gone ahead for all its worth to get rapid results in its huge arms expansion plans.

The Soviet Union has spared nothing in its drive to overtake the United States. The momentum has been gathering, especially after the former attained a military parity in the main with the latter. This has led people everywhere to conclude that Moscow's goal is to overtake the United States in high-technology and finally wrest all-round superiority from it.

### An Offensive Strategy

Since the mid-1960s, when Brezhnev came to power, and especially in the 1970s, a dominant feature of Soviet foreign policy has been the pursuance of an offensive strategy for global expansion. In meeting the needs of this policy, the Soviet Union has switched from a military defensive strategy to an offensive strategy. One Soviet military work declared that Soviet military theory is of an offensive nature and Soviet military strategy is resolute, positive and offensive.

Of course, while adopting an offensive strategy, the Soviet Union has not neglected the importance of defensive measures in war, particularly against a nuclear attack. These measures, it boasts, is to increase the effectiveness of its attack against the enemy. The stress should still be on the decisive role of the strategic offensive.

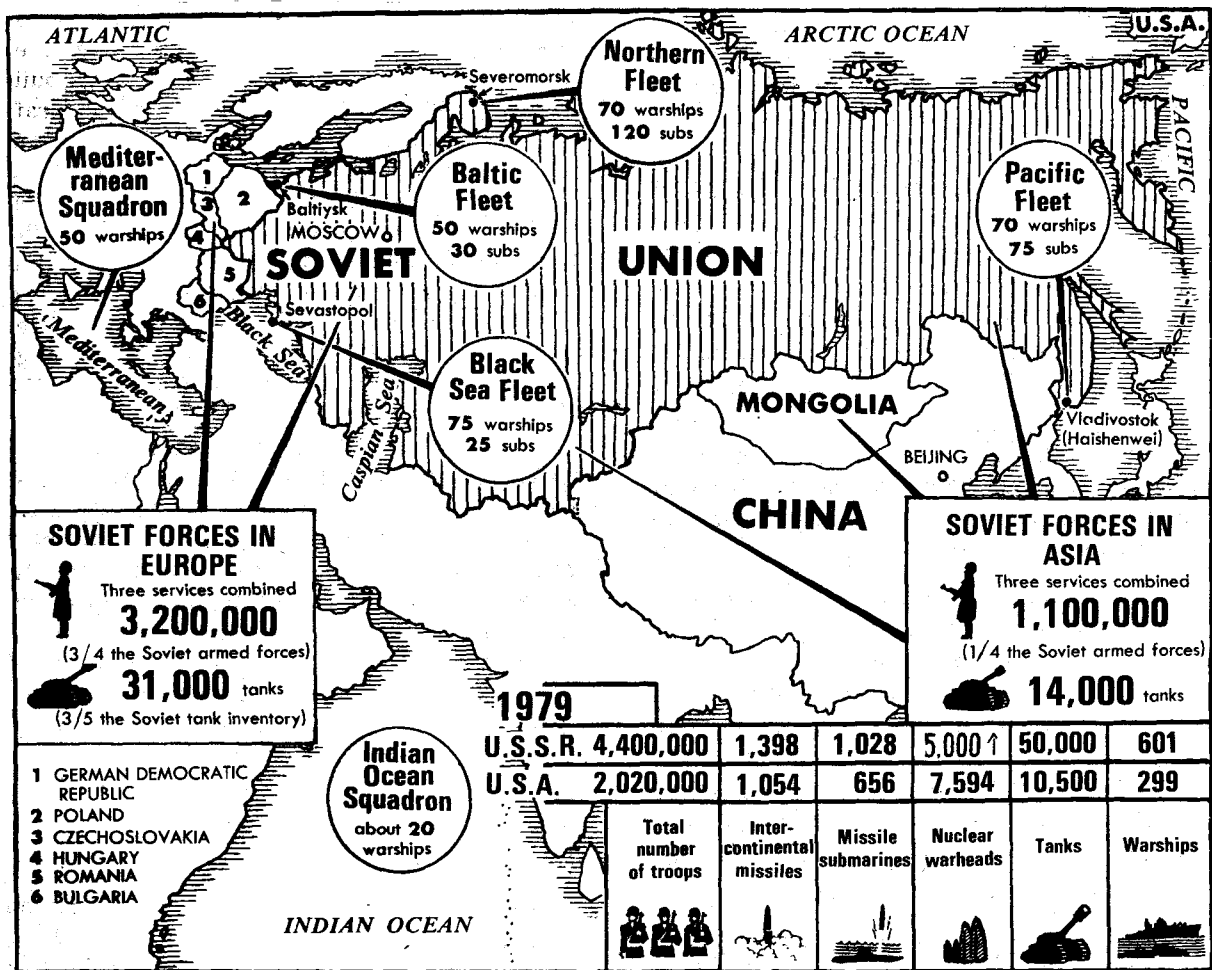
The offensive nature of Soviet military strategy finds expression in many aspects of the building and development of its armed forces. Over the past ten years or so, the basic orientation of Soviet military buildup has been an all-round strengthening of offensive capabilities of all military forces. The stress in its strategic rocket corps, for instance, has been on developing multiple independently targeted ballistic missiles, such as the SS-17, SS-18 and SS-19, and improving kill accuracy and the ability to wipe out American military targets, especially the Minuteman. The ground force is outfitted with sophisticated equipment like T-72 tanks and BMP infantry fighting vehicles to increase firepower, attack capabilities and mobility. As

it pushes ahead with developing its D-class nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines and SS-N-18 missiles, the Soviet navy has built large surface attack ships such as the aircraft carriers *Kiev* and *Minsk*, the nuclear-powered guided missile cruiser *Sovietsky Soyuz*, the landing craft *Ivan Rogov*, with the stress on raising its blue water attack capabilities. The Soviet air force has been equipped with Backfire bombers, upgraded with MIG-27, SU-17 and SU-19 and other new tactical fighters as well as medium and long-range transport aircraft such as the IL-76 to immensely increase its capabilities for long-range attacks, ground attacks and strategic airlifting. In short, the Soviet armed forces, after a decade or so, besides maintaining their traditional edge in ground force, have also gradually made good their deficiencies in nuclear strategic, naval and air forces to become a global armed force basically capable of meeting the various needs of Soviet expansionism.

It is still fresh in people's minds that, during a number of local conflicts in the past few years, including the 1975 Angola war and the 1977 Ogaden war, the Soviet Union demonstrated time and again its ability to support a proxy war in a third world country by a massive sealift and airlift, delivering huge quantities of arms and ammunition to recipient countries within a very short time. In its recent invasion of Afghanistan, the Soviet Union sent giant transports to make hundreds of sorties in only a few days to rush in large numbers of combat troops and enormous quantities of arms and equipment, swiftly take over Kabul and overthrow the Amin administration. It is still sending reinforcements by land and air to Afghan areas bordering Iran and Pakistan in an attempt to quell at one blow all resistance by the Afghan army and people and place the whole of Afghanistan under military occupation. This has again shown the Soviet Union's ability in the air and on the land to launch war against a neighbouring country.

Another salient feature of the Soviet Union's offensive military strategy is its emphasis on sudden pre-emptive attack. Moscow has declared explicitly that surprise attack is the most effective method in future wars, announcing that "we should always be ready to launch a pre-emptive strike to deal with an aggressor's underhand moves." On the basis of this concept of sudden attack, the Soviet Union has explicitly set down for its various





Map drawn to material released by the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London

services the task of carrying out surprise attacks and this idea has been put into practice in all exercises and training. For example, the Soviet strategic missile units conduct exercises mostly on holidays, often beginning at midnight or just before dawn. Long-range aircraft also manoeuvre chiefly at night. The 1968 Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia was one specific application of the surprise attack concept in a conventional war. The Soviet Union employed its customary tactics of a surprise attack — lulling the invaded country with negotiations, massing troops on the pretext of military exercises, hurling in large numbers of paratroops, tanks and motorized troops, thereby taking control of the country's strategic points within six hours and occupying the whole nation in three days. This guiding Soviet concept for war is virtually a modernized version of Hitlerite Germany's blitzkrieg strategy against the Soviet Union and the Japanese sneak attack on Pearl Harbour. It fully reflects the offensive

nature of Soviet military strategy and the aggressive nature of its foreign policy.

### Ready to Wage Various Types of War

In Khrushchov's time, the Soviet Union considered nuclear war using rockets the only type of war, holding that any war, even if it began as a conventional or a non-nuclear war, would eventually develop into a devastating nuclear war fought by means of rockets. In the Brezhnev period, the Soviet assessment of war gradually underwent a change, and it was announced that "there could be a nuclear war, or a conventional war; a world war, or a limited war." Thus, the Soviet Union has affirmed the possibility not only of a conventional war, but also of a nuclear war, either limited or worldwide.

With this change in its assessment, the Soviet attitude towards nuclear war has also

changed. The basic attitude has been one of nuclear blackmail to hold back the outbreak of a nuclear war and, at the same time, preparing for war so as to win the war if one breaks out. With a real war in mind, the Soviet Union has been energetically developing its strategic offensive nuclear weapons as well as paying great attention to civil defence works within its borders and redistributing its industries to survive a nuclear attack. For strategic targets, the Soviet Union has selected the destruction of enemy nuclear delivery systems, large-scale elimination of enemy troops and enemy military bases. This task set for its strategic missile corps is, in fact, an application of the "counter-force" strategy the United States put forward a few years ago.

The Soviet attitude towards conventional war has by and large undergone the following process: from negation to affirmation and then to actual preparation. In Khrushchov's time, the Soviet Union, at one stage, negated conventional warfare and slowed down the development of conventional weapons. After Brezhnev took power, particularly in the 70s, the Soviet Union has increasingly stepped up preparations for fighting a conventional war. In building up its armed forces, it has adopted the principle of co-ordinated development of various services to secure the greatest possible development of all its conventional forces and weapons. Its total armed forces have increased by more than one million over the last decade or so, with ground forces reinforced by 30 divisions and its armoured forces substantially strengthened. By introducing a new system for army units in the last several years, the Soviet Union has added personnel and arms to its ground divisions to vastly enhance firepower, strike capability and mobility. In military manoeuvres, the Soviet Union has paid growing attention to non-nuclear operations. From 1965 to 1978, approximately 80 per cent of Soviet military manoeuvres in Europe were conducted under non-nuclear circumstances. The percentage was higher in Asia.

These facts show that the Soviet Union has paid as much attention to preparing to fight a conventional war as to a nuclear war. Its military strategy is based on preparations for a nuclear war and for a conventional war, that is, for a war involving all types of weapons. This strategy for fighting an actual war and

various types of war differs markedly from Khrushchov's strategy of nuclear deterrent.

### Intensified Southward Drive

For political, geographical and other reasons, the Soviet Union has strategically always had to face the problem of fighting on two fronts — in the east and the west. This has been highlighted due to changes in the international situation in the past decade or so. At the same time, with the development of Soviet military strength, the spheres of activity of the Soviet armed forces have extended to the oceans and land beyond their traditional stamping ground in the European and Asian continents, giving rise to a new and major problem of how to deploy their forces.

Soviet troop deployment and activities vary from one strategic theatre to another, depending on what Moscow sees as its primary goal and what its secondary goal.

In Europe, the Soviet Union has stationed three-quarters, or more than 3.2 million, of its total armed forces — 68 per cent of its ground forces, 70 per cent of its navy and 74 per cent of its air and air defence forces. Most of its intermediate-range missiles are targeted on Western Europe. The Soviet ground forces in Europe are organized into some 110 divisions with 31,000 or more tanks, which makes them an armoured force of great striking power. Of its 31 divisions at full strength in Eastern Europe, the best the Soviet Union has, half are armoured divisions. In G.D.R. alone, it has 10 tank divisions and 10 motorized infantry divisions, directly threatening the heart of Western Europe. Soviet forces in Europe have over the years always had priority in supply of manpower and equipment. Soviet troop dispositions were made to fight mainly in Europe. Many Soviet manoeuvres in Europe simulated large-scale lightning attacks against Western Europe, which reflects, to some extent, the Soviet concept of war in the European theatre.

In Asia, the Soviet Union has stationed one-quarter, or 1.1 million, of its total troop strength. There are some 50 divisions of ground forces with 14,000 tanks. The armed forces in Asia are inferior to those stationed in Europe in numerical strength and strike capability, and the upgrading of their weapons and equipment is also slower. It must be noted, however, that in 1979 the Soviet Union set up a new command in the Far East theatre and has substantially expanded its naval forces there. In 1978, some submarines, large surface combat vessels

and auxiliary vessels were transferred from Europe to Asia. In 1979, the aircraft carrier *Minsk* was incorporated into the Soviet Pacific Fleet. Since the counterattack launched by China in self-defence against Viet Nam, the fleet has stepped up its activities in the South China Sea and has obtained the right to use Vietnamese naval and air bases in Cam Ranh, Da Nang, Ho Chi Minh City and Hai Phong. Furthermore, the Soviet Union has begun deploying intermediate-range SS-20 missiles in the Far East. These preparations for war are directed not only at China but also at the United States and Japan, which are the main objects aimed at in Soviet naval buildup and activities. This is also a component part of the Soviet global military deployment.

The Soviet expansionist activities on the seas are also conspicuous on the southern front, which is the flank of the western and eastern fronts. In this theatre, the Soviet Union pays particular attention to grabbing naval and air bases and bolstering its naval deployment and activities. At present, it maintains 50 or more vessels in its Mediterranean squadron and about 20 surface vessels in its Indian Ocean squadron. They are much more active than the U.S. naval vessels. The Soviet Union now has the right to use more than 40 naval or air bases on the shores of the Mediterranean, and the Indian, Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

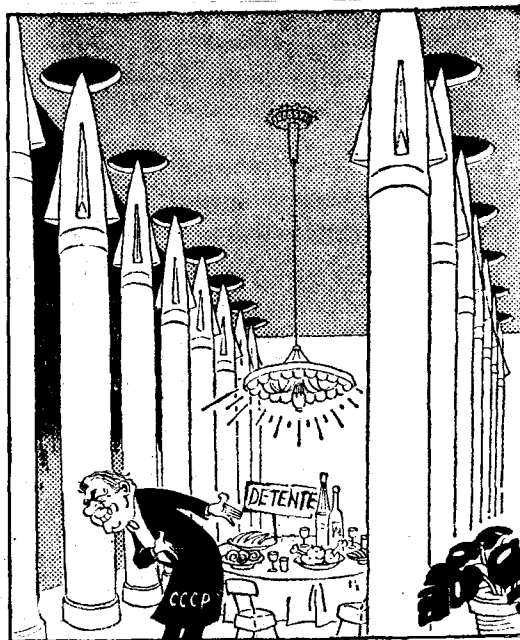
In a word, while the stress of Soviet deployment is still in Europe, the tendency now is to adjust and strengthen Soviet deployment in Asia. On the southern front Soviet naval expansion is being briskly carried on. From this, it is apparent that Europe remains the Soviet Union's primary strategic goal and Asia its secondary goal.

With no breakthrough in sight in the military confrontation and stalemate in Europe and Asia, a major move by the Soviet Union is to thrust south. By using the vassal states of Cuba and Viet Nam to wage proxy wars and committing direct military aggression, it has gradually expanded its spheres of influence and seized strategic points to establish a relatively complete network of disguised military bases abroad. This is aimed at outflanking the European and Asian continents, posing a threat to the West in supplies of strategic raw material

and maritime communications and thus placing the Soviet Union in a more advantageous position in its present contention and a future war with the United States.

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It is clear from the analyses that Soviet military strategy is orientated to serving its



Moscow Banquet.

Cartoon by Qin Zhe

offensive strategy of global expansion. This strategy, which will continue to prevail will eventually lead to greater turmoil in the world and increase the danger of war. In ordinary circumstances, Moscow will continue to use "detente" as a cover and, with power to back it, strive to attain its expansionist goals without having to go to war. However, as the contention between the Soviet Union and the United States intensifies and international crises grow more acute, the Soviet Union will very probably engage in naked, direct war adventures on a larger scale whenever there is an opportunity to exploit or something to gain. The people of the world should keep close watch on this possibility and deal with it earnestly.

(Continued on p. 26.)

# Inquiry Into Guidelines for Agriculture

"Discussions on Guidelines for Agriculture," a column started in July last year in "Renmin Ribao," has sparked a keen response. The column was introduced to sound out the direction of China's agricultural development. The national daily has received about 1,000 contributions from cadres working in leading agricultural departments, agricultural research workers, commune members and workers.

One consensus reached in the discussions was that the traditional concept "farming is synonymous with grain" should be radically altered. But debate rages over whether it is possible to turn China into a predominantly pastoral country. Following are some articles representing various major arguments. — Ed.

## Transforming China's Agricultural Components

by Tong Dalin

Vice-Minister in Charge of  
the State Scientific and  
Technological Commission

FOR 2,000 years, China's agriculture has been a grain-orientated small-peasant economy. A great change has occurred in China's agriculture after the founding of New China in 1949, from the land reform that was completed in 1952, the co-operative transformation of agriculture in 1956 to the establishment of people's communes in 1958. This represented a change in the relations of production, not a fundamental change in the economic structure of China's agriculture and its productive forces. It did not get out from under the shadow of the



2,000-year-old small-peasant economy with its emphasis on producing grain. Some slogans, policies and methods concerning China's agricultural production were orientated solely for grain production, which aggravated the lopsided development of agriculture.

### CHINA'S AGRICULTURAL COMPONENTS

(Total agricultural output value in 1978:  
145,900 million yuan)

Crops	67.8 %
Forestry	3.0 %
Animal husbandry	13.2 %
Sideline occupation*	14.6 %
Fishery	1.4 %
Agriculture (sum total)	100.0 %

\* Including 11.7 per cent from the output value of brigade-run small industries but excluding the output value of commune-run industries.

We have entered the new historical period of making China a modern socialist country. Collaterally, there must also be a new historical turn in China's agriculture, that is, step by step restructuring the small-peasant economy with its emphasis on grain into a modern agricultural production system with an all-round development of forestry, livestock-breeding, fishery and the cultivation of grain and cash crops. The conditions are there for us to start reforming our agriculture in this direction and thereby open up a new epoch of agricultural development in China.

To keep up with the times, we should establish a new, scientific concept of agriculture in place of the obsolete one.

### Ecological Equilibrium

The idea of ecological equilibrium is new in agricultural theory and grew out of the development of modern science and technology. In man's struggle with nature, he has to solve the problem of the interrelations and establish a system of equilibrium between man and nature and within nature itself. When the ecological equilibrium is disrupted, dire consequences ensue. In his *Dialectics of Nature*, Engels



pointed out: The people in Mesopotamia, Greece, Asia Minor and elsewhere destroyed the forests to obtain cultivable land, and never dreamt that they were laying the basis for the present devastated condition of those countries, by removing along with the forests the collecting centres and reservoirs of moisture. When the Italians of the Alps used up the fir forests on the southern slopes, they had no inkling that by doing so they were cutting at the roots of the dairy industry in their region, still less did they realize that they were thereby depriving their mountain springs of water for the greater part of the year, making it possible for these mountain slopes to pour still more furious flood torrents on the plains during the rainy season.

The barren, eroded loess plateau of China today, which had given birth to the Chinese nation, is evidence of what our ancestors had done through ignorance of the scientific theory of ecological equilibrium. The ecological equilibrium was upset in many areas of our country with dire consequences to us today. So, as we modernize our agriculture, we must have this new concept of ecological equilibrium in mind and restore or establish new systems of ecological equilibrium. Our changing the farming structure pivoted on grain production conforms to the natural laws of development for ecological equilibrium, that is, use the law to speed up our agricultural production.

Ecological equilibrium is an extremely complicated problem involving many fields. At present, we should put particular emphasis on protecting and building up our forests. In the 30 years of the People's Republic, we have put enormous efforts into building water conservancy projects, financially, materially and in terms of human resources and our achievements have been significant. But we must not fail to see that as a result of destroying the forests, the water table of many rivers and lakes has been lowered drastically. Wells and reservoirs have dried up and have had to be abandoned. Many areas are still vulnerable to drought and waterlogging. If, in the last 30 years, we had diverted part of our work force from building water conservancy projects to planting trees and growing grass, life would have been much better today.

What we must do now is to launch a nation-



Commune members in Shahe County, Hebei Province, planting trees.

wide, large-scale drive to protect existing forests, plant trees and cultivate grass and keep it up for some years, some decades maybe, and really clothe the whole country in green. Only in this way can we put down a reliable base for ecological equilibrium.

### For an Improved Diet

For years, grain has been our principal food and we have been getting our nourishment and calories mainly from grain. We should think about changing the make-up of our diet.

Chinese meals have always been rich and varied and Chinese cuisine has a world reputation. Furthermore, China is one of the countries abundantly endowed with a wide variety of vegetables, fruit and assorted special non-staples. We have been using the soyabean in a large number of bean products and condiment for a very long time. However, one-sided stress on growing more grain a few years ago forced soyabean to give way to maize. Minority nationalities who have traditionally lived on beef, mutton and dairy products were also forced to make grain their principal food. Pastures were ruthlessly ploughed up to grow grain so that the number of livestock was reduced.

The urban population has reached 110 million. Cities and towns should spearhead the change in diet. At least, the larger cities should start raising beef cattle, sheep, pigs and chickens and growing vegetables by modern methods on a large scale. This will reduce the supply of grain from the countryside to the cities. In the rural areas, we can encourage the better-off communes and brigades to raise more cattle, sheep, pigs and fish so that their members

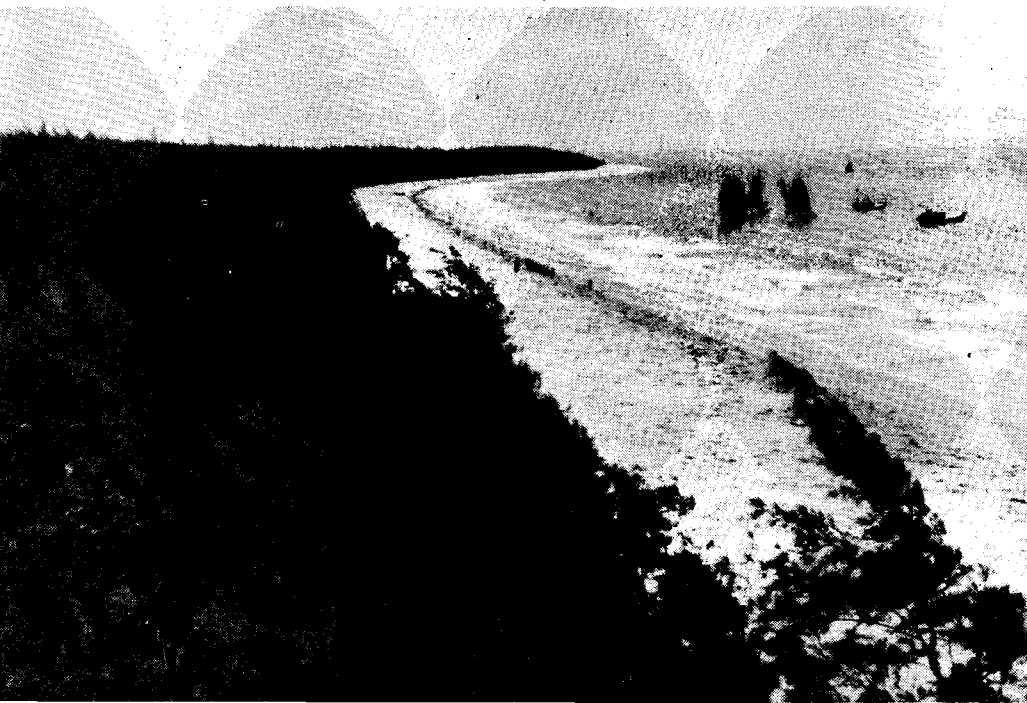
will gradually consume more meat and less grain. Since China has only 100 million hectares of cultivated land but nearly 300 million hectares of grassland, there is every possibility of developing livestock-breeding. High country regions can be planted to trees, including fruit trees, or turned into pastures for stock-raising. The long coast line and many rivers, lakes and reservoirs can be made to provide more fish, shell-fish, shrimps and edible algae.

In short, changing the diet of the nation and changing grain-orientated agriculture go hand in hand. If we grow grain, plant trees, raise livestock and breed fish according to prevailing conditions, make the most of the land, keep at it for a number of years, a change in the composition of the national diet is entirely possible.

### All-Round Rural Development

For many years, our major efforts in agriculture have been devoted to soil improvement and water conservancy. However, from now on, we should direct our attention to transforming and building small rural towns inhabited by tens of thousands of people or more than a hundred thousand so as to avoid the concentration of people in big cities, and this will be conducive to the effort to gradually mechanize farm operations and bring about specialization and in time eliminate the differences between town and country and between industry and agriculture.

A coastal windbreak planted by the Qian-shan Forestry Centre in Guangdong Province.



Building these towns involves the solution of a whole series of problems. First, there is the energy problem. We may use methane gas to generate electricity and utilize solar energy; coal, oil, natural gas and hydropower can all be used if these are available. Secondly, the problem of building in the countryside. Living conditions and environmental hygiene must be improved in a planned way. Thirdly, the problem of rural transport and communications. Resolving all these problems will absorb a tremendous amount of rural manpower.

The basins of northeast China's three rivers—the Songhua, Nenjiang and Mudan—add up to more than 100,000 square kilometres, an area as large as Zhejiang Province but, as yet, good, undeveloped land. Why can't we think about turning it into a modern agricultural base raising grain, trees, livestock and fish, or turning it into a modernized, predominantly agricultural region with well-developed industry, commerce, science and technology and education. I think the three river basins should also be made into a region of many modern, beautiful small towns having practical, comfortable and low-cost houses and a network of good communications.

### Comprehensive Economic, Technological And Educational Systems

In agriculture, agro-industrial-commercial enterprises should be set up to handle production, supply and marketing. Comprehensive economic, technological and educational systems covering agriculture, industry, commerce, science and technology and education could be established so that these sectors can coordinate with and promote one another. The organizational form of these systems may be decided in the course of practice.

Agricultural developments cannot be separated from the entire economic structure of society. Without support from industry, without the



Pasture of the Nanshan Ranch in Hunan Province.

linking role of commerce, there can be no vigorous developments of agriculture; it will stagnate. To talk about building up a modern agriculture without modern science and technology and education would be pointless. At present, particular stress must be put on commerce. The interlinking role commerce plays is becoming increasingly felt. China has no tradition of modern commercial management. Many highly popular methods of commercial management were, for the past 20 years or so, criticized as capitalist. The commercial network should be taken as the "vascular system" of the entire economy, invigorating the entire economy.

We must break away from the conventions of small-peasant economy and with traditional ideas about agriculture. We must recognize the interrelations between industrial, commercial, scientific-technological and educational developments and agricultural development and establish a corresponding economic structure. Otherwise, it is very difficult to modernize agriculture.

## Animal Husbandry First

by Liu Zhenbang

*China Institute of World Economics*

**T**O modernize agriculture, it is necessary to break away from the traditional concept of equating agriculture with the growing of grain and change the proportions of agricultural components to gradually bring about the dominance of livestock-breeding.

Some people say this is out of the question because of China's low agricultural produc-

tivity and the small per-capita share of the nation's grain output. This is inaccurate. When the Western countries started shifting their emphasis in farming from raising crops to raising livestock, their crop production was more or less on the same level as ours today. The United States and Canada began the change-over in the 1930s, followed by France and West Germany a decade later. France's per-capita share of grain at that time was only 350 kilogrammes. But with the development of animal husbandry France has, since 1968, changed

from an importer to an exporter of farm produce and gone on to become the world's second biggest exporter of farm produce and the third largest exporter of grain.

Most countries which developed their agriculture fairly rapidly after World War II had livestock-raising as their main objective in farming. This gives food for thought. So, is it true that a country with a low grain output cannot switch over to making livestock-raising the paramount activity in agriculture?

Some claim the Chinese people are used to a diet of rice or *mantou* (steamed buns) and are not fond of beef and milk, so a pastoral rural economy is not practical. But these comrades have forgotten that man first hunted and fished. Cultivation came later. It was the consumption of animal proteins that led to the leap from the brain of an ape to the brain of a man. As to habits, one of the earliest habits man acquired was eating meat. People soon get used to good things as long as they can afford them.

There are also some who think that a predominantly livestock-raising rural economy is not possible because we have a huge population in relation to cultivated area and we do not have much arable land. But this makes it all the more necessary for us to develop animal husbandry. That will make up for our deficiency in arable land. Raising livestock will also help increase the fertility of the land under cultivation, improve the conservation of water and soil, upgrade our environment and lead to better use of the land.

China has 100 million hectares of arable land, that is 11 per cent of its area. There is

comparatively little potential for increasing the cultivated acreage. But this country has huge tracts of grassland, close to 300 million hectares, where livestock-breeding is extensively carried on. Assuming the size of usable grassland to be 200 million hectares, we could raise at least 200 million head of cattle. Moreover, there are several hundred million hectares of barren mountains that can be reclaimed. Our potential for developing animal husbandry is unique.

We should devote great efforts to breeding dairy cattle, beef cattle, pigs, sheep and poultry.

When we say making animal husbandry first in agriculture, we do not mean that it should be made the main agricultural pursuit everywhere in the country. We mean establishing special farms and production bases to raise livestock and poultry where conditions are suitable.

## It Will Get Us Nowhere

by Ding Shengjun and  
Wu Zhongliu

*Research Institute of Scientific and  
Technological Information,  
Ministry of Grain*

**T**HE formulation of an agricultural concept must be based on the specific features of the country concerned; the experience of other countries must serve only as a reference. In presenting the basic concept in his article, Comrade Liu Zhenbang has not taken into account the actual conditions prevailing in our

country and the dialectical relationship between grain production and animal husbandry and has stood them up against each other. He then goes on to propose making "animal husbandry first" in agriculture, instead of "taking grain as the key link." In our view, at present and for a long time to come, "animal husbandry first" is not practical in our country.

One important experience in the development of animal husbandry here in this country and elsewhere in the world is that mixed animal feed constitutes the foundation of modern animal husbandry. In large, highly mechanized pig farms, cattle farms and chicken farms, huge numbers of animals are kept in a very small space and have very restricted movement. The periodicity is very short, so it is all the more necessary to have excellent mixed feed to provide all the nutrient required, prevent diseases and stimulate animal growth. This is why all countries with a well-developed animal husbandry have established their own large, well-developed industry producing animal feed.

By the middle of the 70s, Japan, West Germany and Britain each produced over 10 million tons of feed mixture annually; France and the Netherlands, close to 10 million tons; and the United States, more than 100 million tons. Without such a powerful animal feed industry, it would be beyond these countries to do what they have done in livestock development.

The main source of animal feed is products from crop-farming. Of the various ingredients in an all-value feed mixture, the main ones are concentrates high in energy value, protein meals, minerals and roughage. Three of them come mainly from crop-farming; moreover, grain and by-products from processing cereals and edible oil seeds are the basics in any all-value feed mixture. If we neglect grain production and one-sidedly emphasize the road of "animal husbandry first," would we not be "making bread without flour"?

True, some West European countries have developed animal husbandry although their total grain output is not high. But they had to import huge amounts of raw materials for animal feed. For instance, in the decade between 1963 and 1973 cereal grain produced in West Germany was, on the average, just enough to meet 66.2 per cent of the grain it needed for animal feed and 77.8 per cent of the grain it needed for making bread. The deficiency had to be imported. Ours is a big country with near-



Xinjiang fine-wool sheep now graze in areas south of the Changjiang River.

ly 1,000 million people. It is simply not practical to solve the problem of animal feed through imports.

We are of the view that efforts should be made to create conditions for developing animal husbandry, and that developing animal husbandry should be the main objective on grasslands and in mountain areas. But taking the country as a whole, we must continue to uphold the principle of simultaneously developing agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, sideline production and fishery and the policy of "taking grain as the key link, ensuring an all-round development, do what suits local conditions best and concentrate on one field of production in some selected areas."

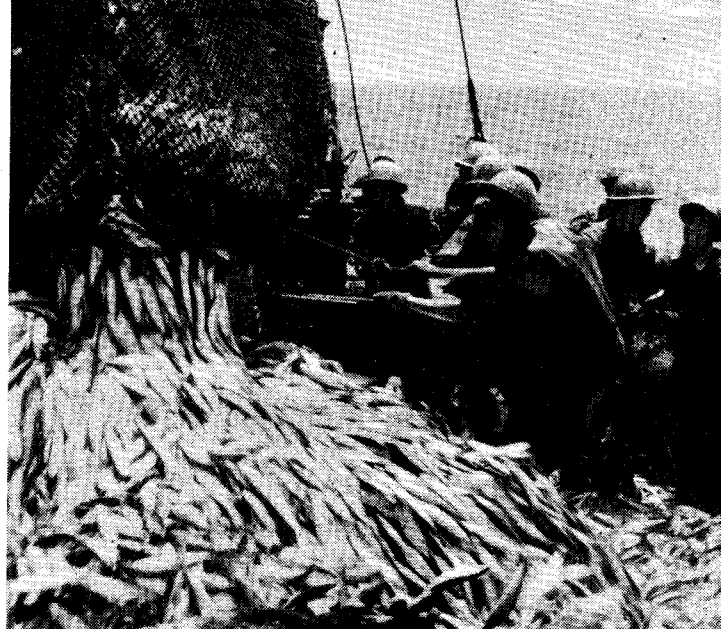
## It Will Work in Jiangxi Province

by Yu Shijun

*Jiangxi Academy of Agricultural Science*

**I** AGREE with Comrade Liu Zhenbang. Livestock-raising can become the dominant sector in the Chinese rural economy.

The area of our grassland is only smaller than the acreage of perennial pasture of Australia, the Soviet Union or the United States. It ranks fourth in the world. There should be no problem in turning the vast stretches of grassland into modern livestocking-raising bases. But, the traditional idea that agriculture means producing grain has stopped us to this day from



Fishermen of the Zhangzi Commune in Liaoning Province.

making full, rational use of our grassland. There is great potential in China for developing its livestock industry.

Take Jiangxi Province for instance. In 1978, livestock-breeding contributed only 10.9 per cent to the total agricultural output value (70.2 per cent from crop production and 4.4 per cent from forestry). This set-up in agriculture is irrational. Jiangxi still has 3.4 million hectares of unused land, grass slopes and lakesides. The 200,000 hectares of lake flats about Poyang Lake are fertile, close to water and overgrown with reed. If a third of it is turned into cattle farms and each production team in the province raises 5 to 10 head of cattle, Jiangxi's cattle population would go up 50 per cent. Furthermore, if a better breed of pigs is used, pork production can go up 15.2 per cent each year without increasing the pig population.

These two measures alone could vastly raise the proportionate output value of animal husbandry in Jiangxi. Neither of these two measures competes for land with crop production or afforestation. They do not divert manpower from these two fields either. And what is more, Jiangxi is extremely suitable for raising dairy herds, sheep, goats, rabbits and poultry.

Of course we should not follow the practice of some Western countries developing their livestock industry through importing animal



A 10,000-duck farm in Shanghai's Chuansha County produces 100,000 kilogrammes of eggs a year.

feed. But it does show how much importance they attach to developing their animal husbandry. We have ample labour power and the conditions for livestock-breeding, so why should we wait until there is an abundance of grain before we start developing our livestock-breeding sector?

## What Should Mountain Areas Do?

by Wang Guoying  
Party Committee Secretary of  
Luliang Prefecture, Shanxi  
Province

I WAS born and raised in the countryside and I have been engaged in agricultural work for several decades. In the past, if I were asked what agriculture was all about, I would have no hesitation in answering: "Agriculture is to produce food grain." But why haven't we made a lot more progress after all these years? I have thought much about this recently and I am beginning to see how much the old idea that farming was simply to produce grain has held up our agricultural development. If anyone engaged in farm work does not understand agricultural science, the laws of nature and economic laws, he will be merely groping in the dark.

The Luliang Prefecture has 13 counties, nine of them totalling 15,000 sq. kilometres, in the Luliang Mountains. The high elevation, steep slopes, deep valleys, sparse vegetation and arid climate are unfavourable factors for the

production of food grain, but they will not hold back afforestation and animal husbandry. We should adapt ourselves to these natural conditions and develop forestry and livestock-raising in a big way.

But for a long time we paid attention only to grain production, and upset the ecological equilibrium. By 1978, less than 10 per cent of the prefecture was left with a forest cover. Huge mountain areas were denuded of vegetation. Erosion each year stripped away one cm. of topsoil and dumped 170 million tons of silt into the Huanghe River.

Grain output has been low for a long time, the peasants earned very little. Those of us in charge of agricultural production were mentally fettered by narrow small-peasant ideas about farming. We knew little about science and we did not pay much heed to the practical experience of the masses. Naturally, we are being made to suffer for violating objective laws.

Our agricultural guidelines should be based on actual conditions and the laws of nature. In the Luliang Mountains area, we must readjust the proportions of agricultural components, make rational use of the natural resources, take forestry and animal husbandry as the main occupation in agriculture, plant plenty of trees and grow grass as we strive to increase grain output. This will enable us to gradually build up a rational agricultural system which does not upset the ecological equilibrium, and bring about an all-round and stable development of the economy in our mountainous area.

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(Continued from p. 19.)

On the other hand, we should not, of course, overestimate the strength of the Soviet Union. We should see that there are many very deep flaws in its strategy. It is very ambitious but it is not up to it. It has far-flung fronts, making it impossible to gain in one place without losing in another. Internally, it is beset with many difficulties — a falling rate of economic growth and sharpening contradictions among its nationalities. Externally, its expansion and aggression are meeting with greater and greater resistance from the rest of the world. The rise and development of a worldwide struggle against hegemonism and the increasingly great

resistance and opposition from the peoples of third world countries will place the Soviet Union in a still more disadvantageous position. All these are factors unfavourable to the execution of the Soviet military strategy for world domination. So long as the countries and peoples of the world maintain their guard against the Soviet military menace, really strengthen their national defences, close their ranks in a united struggle against hegemonism and take timely, resolute measures to check Soviet aggression, Soviet strategy can be frustrated in the interest of safeguarding world peace and security.

(*"Renmin Ribao's" Special Commentator, January 11*)



● **Probing the Secrets Of Long Life**

Fresh air, a peaceful and secluded environment, moderate eating and drinking, a vegetarian diet, a certain amount of physical labour and high spirits seem to contribute to a long life, according to a study on gerontology conducted by a medical team in Guangdong, Guangxi and Hubei.

The medical team went to the Bama Yao Autonomous County, which is situated in the rolling hills 435-698 metres above sea level in northwestern Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, and talked with 53 people (20 men and 33 women) ranging in age from 90 to 112. There were 27 Zhuangs, 16 Yaos and 10 Hans. Except for a boatman and a traditional Chinese doctor, the rest were all peasants. After their discussions the medical workers concluded that the following factors have a bearing on longevity.

— Environment. These people live far apart in the peaceful mountains, where the air is fresh, and as they don't come into close contact with one another, contagious diseases are not likely to spread.

— Moderate physical labour. These old people take part in physical labour the year round. Even when they reach 80 and no longer work in the fields, they don't sit idly by. The 100-year-old Tan Busong of Zhuang nationality, for instance, still goes to the riverside every day to cut grass for horses or tend the ducks.

— Diet. The main staples in their diet are corn, sweet potatoes, rice, beans, vegetables, sweet potato leaves and pumpkins. They have two meals a day, consume very little animal

fat and never eat or drink excessively. The incidence of cardio-vascular diseases and cancer is quite low. Four of them do have some type of coronary disease and three suffer from hypertension.

— High spirit. Most of these old people are optimistic, cheerful, patient and sociable.

The medical team also concluded that the relationship between heredity and longevity needs further study. They found that more than half of the people they interviewed have close relatives who enjoyed long lives.

China began the study of gerontology in the 1950s but this was suspended during the Cultural Revolution. Work has only recently resumed.

● **Zheng He Park**

A park in commemoration of the famous Chinese navigator Zheng He has recently been opened to the public in Yunnan Province. It is located on a crescent-shaped hill in Zheng He's hometown of Kunyang in Jinning County. The entrance-way is decorated with relief carvings depicting Zheng He commanding his fleet.



Solar energy propelled craft on the West Lake.

Many pavilions and tablets as well as tall ancient cypress trees can be found all over the park grounds which cover an area of 34 hectares.

Zheng He (1375-1435), originally called Ma He, was a eunuch of the Hui nationality in the Ming court (1368-1644). He was sent on voyages by the Ming rulers in order to develop the empire's national economy, increase its trade with other countries and spread its political influence. From 1405 to 1433 (more than half a century before Columbus discovered America), he made seven voyages to 30 countries in the South Sea Islands, in South Asia and along the east coast of Africa. Zheng He's exploits constitute a glorious chapter in world history of navigation.

● **Solar Craft on West Lake**

A small blue solar energy propelled boat went into trial operation on the West Lake in the famous scenic city of Hangzhou. Noise and pollution free, the boat is powered by solar energy. A mere flick of a switch at the stern starts and stops the craft. It is quite pleasurable and safe.

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## People in the News



Li Liangmei (left) discussing the mill's management with a worker.

After Li Liangmei, a 39-year-old worker, volunteered to take over the post of deputy director of his textile mill in June last year, the mill made up a 60,000 yuan loss incurred in the first half of the year and fulfilled its 1979 planned earnings.

The Huaibei Textile Mill in Anhui Province, where Li works, has 300 workers and staff members. Production fell steadily from June in 1978. In the first half of 1979 the mill was in the red every month. In the first quarter, it turned out no first-class textiles

while consumption of raw materials and energy rose.

Li Liangmei was alarmed. So he said to the mill's superiors: "If the leadership and the workers trust me, I think I can put a stop to this. If I don't, I'll accept all the consequences."

When people heard that Li was going to be made a deputy director, some were against it and some were for it. The latter said this ex-armyman, who had joined the mill in 1972, had experience in running a rural store and was familiar with the mill's operations and, most important of all, he was confident and determined to make the mill produce the goods it should.

The Huaibei city Party committee secretary cast his vote for Li. He said: "The post should go to whoever can make a good job of the mill." So Li was appointed deputy director charged with the responsibility of overall operations.

The first thing Li did was to ensure that everyone observes labour discipline. One of the mill's directors once went away for two hours on personal business without leave; he had half a day's pay docked.

Li put workers to replacing the obsolete looms with 36 new ones which the mill had bought at the end of 1977 but which had not yet been installed. He organized workshop heads to study and put forward measures to improve work. Before long the mill took on a new look.

panel is made up of 3,000 small monocrystalline silicon cells, which collect enough energy on a sunny day to drive the boat for 3 hours at a speed of six kilometres an hour.

## ● Huge Tea-Oil Tree

An unusually large tea-oil tree (*Camellia oleosa*) was found in the Baise Prefecture of the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region by a local forestry scientific research team which was conducting an investigation on the growth of tea-oil trees last year. It has been named the "King Tea-Oil Tree" for it is much larger than ordinary tea-oil trees.

The 160-year-old tree is 7.73 metres high, with a trunk 38 cm. in diameter and has 7 branches covering a space of 34.8 square metres. Because it grows near a commune member's house, it is well fertilized and watered. In a good year, the thriving tree can produce as much as 250-300 kilograms of tea-oil bearing fruits, the biggest one as large as an egg.

Vast stretches of tea-oil trees grow in most counties in Guangxi, but this is the first time such a large tea-oil tree has been found in China. The discovery is beneficial to research on the laws governing the growth of these trees.



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This boat, the first of its kind in China, was trial-built by the Ningbo Semi-Conductor Apparatus Plant with help from two shipyards. It has a fibreglass hull and can accommodate five or six people. The 1.27-square-metre solar energy

PHYSICS

**Conference on the Theory of Particle Physics**

China welcomes international academic exchanges and discussions. The recent gathering of physicists of Chinese nationality or of Chinese origin from different parts of the world at Conghua, a hot spring resort not far from Guangzhou in south China, was a proof of this.

Nearly 50 scholars from the United States, Britain, West Germany, Australia, Malaysia and Singapore, as well as from Xianggang (Hongkong) and about 100 from research institutes and universities throughout the country took part in the six-day conference sponsored by the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Eighty-five physicists, including Professors Tsung-dao Lee and Chen-ning Yang, both Nobel Prize winners, read their papers at the conference. They dealt with such varied subjects as gauge field, quantum chrom-

odynamics, phenomenological theory, gravitational theory, the grand unification theory and the newly discovered particles in theoretical particle physics.

China achieved some progress in the 1960s in the field of particle physics, and proposed the study of stratum model. However, the work was suspended during the Cultural Revolution, and was resumed only in 1976. In only three years' time, fairly rapid progress has been achieved. The recent conference near Guangzhou will no doubt have an important influence on the development of research in the theory of particle physics.

ART

**Wu Zuoren the Veteran**

One of China's modern masters, Wu Zuoren is particularly noted for his ability to blend traditional Chinese and modern Western techniques, in the same style as his mentor Xu Beihong (Ju Peon), who died in 1953.

The 72-year-old artist takes

great pleasure in painting animals. With a few strokes, he can skilfully depict the tail of a goldfish moving through translucent water.

Wu Zuoren's most celebrated portrait is "Painter Qi Baishi," the late 94-year-old master artist. Here Wu Zuoren has captured Qi Baishi in a very familiar pose: his eyes lost in contemplation and his lips pursed, as though about to lick the tip of his brush before beginning work. The thumb and index finger of his right hand are pinched together in readiness to grasp the brush.

Since liberation, Wu Zuoren has painted many pictures portraying the spirit of our era.

Wu Zuoren studied painting in France and Belgium in the 1930s. He strove to master the principles of the realistic traditions of Western art and to acquire a solid foundation in sketching and oils. He was much influenced by the Flemish school of painting that had a profound effect on the development of modern oil painting.

After he returned to China, he began studying the techniques of traditional Chinese painting. He copied many of the famous murals of the Dunhuang Caves, where he could trace the development of Chinese art back to the fourth century.

Many collections and reproductions of Wu Zuoren's works have been published. His paintings are hung in the Great Hall of the People and other public buildings in Beijing. His great abilities are also reflected in the fact that many of his former students make up the current generation of Chinese painters.

Wu Zuoren became president of the Central Academy of Fine



Professor Tsung-dao Lee (second from right) chatting with post-graduates taking part in the conference.



Arts in 1958, and last September he was proclaimed honorary president of the academy. He was elected vice-chairman of the China Federation of Literary and Art Circles at the recent national congress of writers and artists.

## THEATRE

### *On Stage and Off*

The curtain falls. The play *Save the Girl* is over. The last lines of the main character are still ringing in the ears of the audience: "Other people have paid dearly for my new-found happiness with many tears and much suffering. I want to thank you all for what you have done for me!"

Every performance of this drama has been packed. First presented by the Modern Drama Troupe of Changchun in their own city, they then produced it for Beijing audiences. After that, two Shanghai troupes staged it simultaneously in their city and teachers of the Central Institute of Theatrical Art staged it in Beijing. This eight-act play has become the talk of the town in both Beijing and Shanghai. Why? Not because it is brilliantly acted, but because it deals with a very serious social problem: What should be done about all the young people who

were led astray by the gang of four's anarchistic and corrosive ideas?

*Save the Girl* is the story of a young innocent girl Li Xiaoxia, who in the days when the gang of four was in power is wrongly expelled from school

because she opposes the persecution of the teachers and is sent to work in the countryside. She works well there. When workers are recruited to work in the city, she is one of them but later is replaced by another. She expresses her resentment to such bad practices by counterfeiting the name of a niece of a leading cadre in order to enter a college. After this is discovered, she is taken into custody. Afterwards she is led astray by some bad people. When her parents can do nothing to save her, the Party organization and her friends come to her aid. Her teacher is particularly instrumental in encouraging her and in the end she mends her ways.

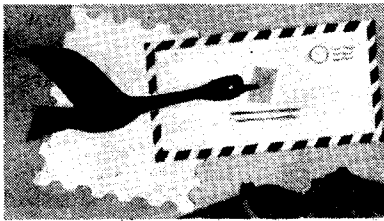
This modern play is a realistic education to those teenagers who made similar mis-

takes. One day after a show some performers found a girl still sitting in her seat with tears in her eyes. They soon discovered that she was a delinquent. She sobbed: "Li Xiaoxia has been saved. I want to turn over a new leaf but who will come to save me!" Such a response is exactly what the playwright is trying to say to the entire society: It is absolutely imperative that the wounds inflicted on the young people during the ten years of turmoil be immediately attended to and this can only be done by relying on all segments of society.

There are a great number of people like teacher Fang who have helped such young people make a new start. A report in *Wen Hui Bao* said the Chinese Youth League of the Shanghai Textile Bureau has been particularly active in this respect. Some of these young people have given reports on their experiences to encourage other teenagers lagging behind to catch up. Fifteen such meetings were attended by 10,000 young people. Some young people who were always in fights have now become very enthusiastic about production while some others who once indulged in drinking sprees have now joined the Chinese Youth League.



Li Xiaoxia mends her ways and passes the college entrance exams.



## LETTERS FROM READERS

### Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan

In view of the current Soviet invasion of Afghanistan I feel that I must commend you heartily on your correct assessment of Soviet hegemonistic policies. For years you have warned the world against Soviet social-imperialism. You were the first to recognize that detente was a sham and a ruse and that the SALT agreements would be useless without any form of sincerity.

It is unfortunate that the West did not pay full attention to your warnings. President Carter's views on the Soviets have now changed drastically.

Perhaps now the world will pay more attention to your views, especially with regard to the Soviet Union.

**Winston C. Kam**  
Toronto, Canada

The invasion of Afghanistan is a barefaced hegemonist act of the Soviet Union. China should through various means more forcefully oppose the Soviet invasion of that country.

The United Nations must play its part in opposing Soviet hegemonism. In this respect, China should make use of the rostrum of the United Nations even though there might be no immediate results.

**Kosaburo Yorimura**  
Kanegawa, Japan

The acts of Soviet social-imperialism have become increasingly blatant. It persists in carrying out the policies of expansionism and hegemonism and is encroaching on the sovereign rights of the people of various countries. The latest example is its shameless and reactionary interference in the

affairs of the Afghan people and occupation of Afghanistan.

**Eliseo Sanabria Esteban**  
Barcelona, Spain

### "Iron Rice Bowl" and Human Rights

I would like to offer some comments on the issue of "Iron Rice Bowl." In the excellent article "Notes on the Human Rights Question" in *Beijing Review* No. 45, 1979, economic right was unequivocally considered an integral part of human rights. This is an outstanding feature of socialist perspectives of human rights since no country in the West has ever advocated economic right as a human right. Human rights as understood in the West are mostly procedural rights, not substantive rights. "Iron Rice Bowl" seems to me a concrete evidence of a substantive right uniquely enjoyed by the Chinese people. It is to be envied by the rest of the world.

As to the question of productivity it should be a question of "Silver Rice Bowl" or "Gold Rice Bowl," not of "Iron Rice Bowl."

**Paul K.K. Tong**  
New Jersey, U.S.A.

### Human Rights: A Different View

You published Christina Holmes' letter on the question of human rights in issue No. 50, 1979. Here I would like to give my views.

I would like to say something about human rights in West Germany, where conditions are much the same as in other Western capitalist societies. Why don't we have the right to strike in West Germany? In the People's Republic of China, this basic right of the labouring people is written in the Constitution.

Do we really enjoy the basic right to receive an education in West Germany? Do the children of the working people in West Germany have an equal opportunity to receive an education which nominally belongs to them? A look at the statistics will tell you at once that the percentage of children of working people studying in universities is very low.

The distribution of the tax burden here is also unjust. For example, income tax has always been the main source of revenue. This inevitably affects the living standard of the labouring people

and is a hindrance to free development.

In the People's Republic of China, there are unquestionably some privileges which should be eliminated, and the implementation of the Constitution surely is not in complete accord with some of its provisions. However, aren't there similar loopholes in West Germany, too?

**G.L. Flatow**  
Ratingen, West Germany

### Humorous Drawings

*Beijing Review* is a political magazine. Politics can also be expressed through interesting forms. For instance, humorous drawings is a good means. I suggest that you publish a series of political humorous drawings covering half a page in each issue, using satire, mockery and other forms to express views on certain current events. This will certainly be of interest to many readers.

**Ralf Ellwanger**  
Mosbach-Ne, West Germany

### China and Arab Countries

I suggest that *Beijing Review* start a new column "China and the Arab World." In this column, which may appear once a month, you can publish news about the relations between China and the Arab world in the cultural, economic and political fields as well as the development of these relations.

**Papa Mohamed Abd Alkadel**  
Timenrast, Algeria

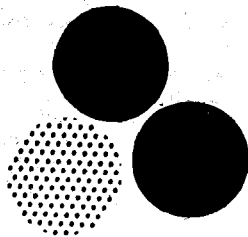
Thanks for your suggestion. The Arabic edition of "Beijing Review" has from the third issue of this year started a new column entitled "Friendship Between Chinese and Arab Peoples."  
—Ed.



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